

WASC 796

On Her Majesty's Service

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Poster
Programme

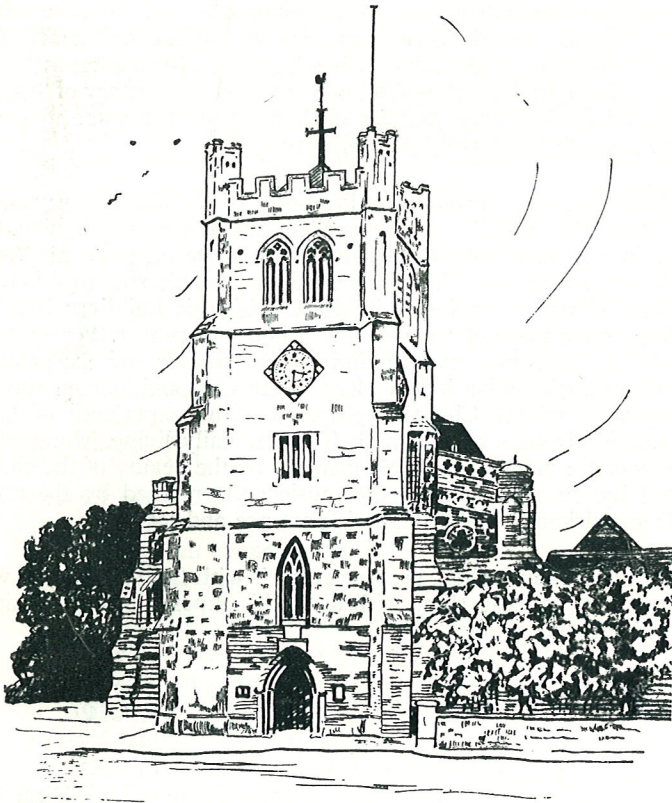
Festival of Flowers
7-9th July 1972
Souvenir Guide

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Waltham Abbey

Festival of Flowers

7th 8th & 9th JULY, 1972



Souvenir Guide

10p

“SAY IT WITH FLOWERS” is a popular slogan, and there are two particular things which we are saying at Waltham Abbey through this Flower Festival.

The first thing we want to say is quite simply—WELCOME—a warm welcome to all of you who come to our Festival at this time. Flower Festivals have become commonplace during recent years, but we hope that this will be one with a difference, and the difference is in the building, for Waltham Abbey is one of the oldest and most beautiful churches in the land. It has been here for almost as long as there has been an English nation, and much of the history of England is reflected in this place. We are glad that you have come to see us, and we hope that you will fully enjoy your visit.

Then secondly, through the loveliness of the flowers, we want to say—“THANK YOU”—a very sincere thank you to all who have helped in any way with this Festival, but above all a Thank You to God for nine long centuries of his goodness and blessing in this place. Waltham Abbey is not just a lovely and historic building; it is first and foremost a place of worship and a house of prayer. For over 900 years it has stood here as a reminder of the power and the greatness of God, and still today it is a place where men and women can find the relevance of the Christian gospel and the experience of God’s love and forgiveness and strength for their daily living. Hundreds of people worship here every week, inspired by the beauty of the church, uplifted by the splendour of the music and enriched by the understanding and knowledge of Christ’s presence and teaching.

At this Festival, then, we are saying it with flowers in a big way! We hope that you will share with us in this experience of worship, of thanksgiving and of joy.

Ken P. Ue.

Vicar.

HISTORICAL NOTES & GUIDE (see plan centre page)

PORCH

1. A church was founded at Waltham by Tovi, a great Danish thane close to King Cnut, to house a black crucifix brought from Somerset and said to have miraculous powers of healing. King Harold founded a new church to replace Tovi's in 1060 and dedicated it to Holy Cross. Twelve secular canons served the church and it became a centre for pilgrimage.

WAR MEMORIAL

2. From prehistoric times Waltham was popular with man for the hunting and fishing provided by the forest and the river.

NORTHWEST CORNER

3. The banner depicts Harold, Earl of Wessex, later King of England. A twelfth century canon of Waltham stated that Harold's body was brought to Waltham after the Battle of Hastings, and there was certainly a tomb at the High Altar of his church (the position of this is now outside the east end of the present church).

1st PILLAR

4. Tovi is represented by a raven.
5. Harold is represented by a dragon.
(Heraldry was not in common use until the 13th century.)

NORTH WALL

6. Scenes from the Bayeux tapestry have been chosen to depict the life of Harold and his foundation of Waltham, embroidered by Waltham women in modern style.
 - i. Harold feasts in his manor house.
 - ii. He discusses the plans for Waltham with King Edward.
 - iii. Stone for the church is brought by boat up the river.
 - iv. The church is built and the hand of God consecrates it.
(Westminster is shown on the Bayeux tapestry, Waltham must have been very like it.)
 - v. Harold rides with his hawk on his wrist.
The Norman boats sail from Normandy.
The Norman knights ride to battle at Hastings.
 - vi. Harold is crowned King of England by Archbishop Stigand.
 - vii. The Saxons defend themselves at Senlac hill. Men from all Harold's manors would have fought with him, including some from Waltham.

- viii. Harold is killed. Possibly the first and last figures are Harold struck first by an arrow in the eye and then hewn down by a Norman sword.
- ix. The funeral of Edward the Confessor, 1066. Was Harold's body ever given such a funeral at Waltham?

2nd PILLAR

- 7. Matilda of Scotland.
- 8. Adeliza of Louvain.
The two queens of Henry I (1100–1135); Waltham was part of their dower and both were thus patronesses of the church. Much of the present church was probably rebuilt at this time.
(The arms are those used by their families two generations later.)

3rd PILLAR

- 9. Walter Gant.
- 10. William de Vere.
The two canons responsible for building Henry II's new priory (soon designated an abbey) at Waltham in 1177.

4th PILLAR

- 11. William D'Aubynge had married Henry I's widow Adeliza and is said to have burnt down the town (but not the church) in a fight with Geoffrey de Mandeville, who owned neighbouring lands.
- 12. The FitzAucher family lived at Copped Hall (always in Waltham Holy Cross until 1739) from the 12th century until 1337. They were Foresters of Waltham Forest.

NORTH WALL BEFORE SCREEN

- 13. Thomas a Becket's murder at Canterbury was a reason for Henry II's foundation at Waltham. It was part of Henry's penance imposed on him by Pope Alexander III.
The model, made by M. H. Bailey, shows the Abbey church as it probably appeared in the 14th century. To the north lay the conventual buildings and the abbey farm.

5th PILLAR

- 14. Henry II. Founder of the Augustinian Abbey at Waltham.
- 15. Eleanor of Castile, wife of Edward I (1272–1307). Her body rested at Waltham before its final burial at Westminster. Waltham Cross marks where her funeral cortege turned off the London road to visit Waltham Abbey.

NORTH WALL BEYOND THE SCREEN

16. The painting (by Miss P. Webb) shows Waltham as it may have appeared from the west in the 14th century. The conventual buildings with the great church are surrounded by a stone wall, and to the left of these may be seen the great barns, stables, fishponds and dovecote of the Abbey. The positions of these buildings are known from recent excavation. The side panels represent the work of the Abbey.

NORTHEAST CORNER

17. In 1540 Henry VIII ordered the great Abbey of Waltham to be dissolved and it was quickly reduced to ruins leaving only the nave of Harold's original foundation. The present west tower was added in the reign of his daughter Mary I. Before the Dissolution, however, he and his first queen, Catherine of Aragon, visited the abbey frequently.

6th PILLAR

18. One of Waltham's 15th century abbots, whose badge is a pun on his name, Gervase Rose, represents his fellow abbots.

THE EAST WALL AND SANCTUARY

19. Originally an arched opening to a great eastern Norman tower, the east end of Waltham's church is now filled by the fine Victorian wall designed by Burgess with windows by Burne-Jones. At the Dissolution all the treasure of the Abbey was taken by the King for his own treasury.

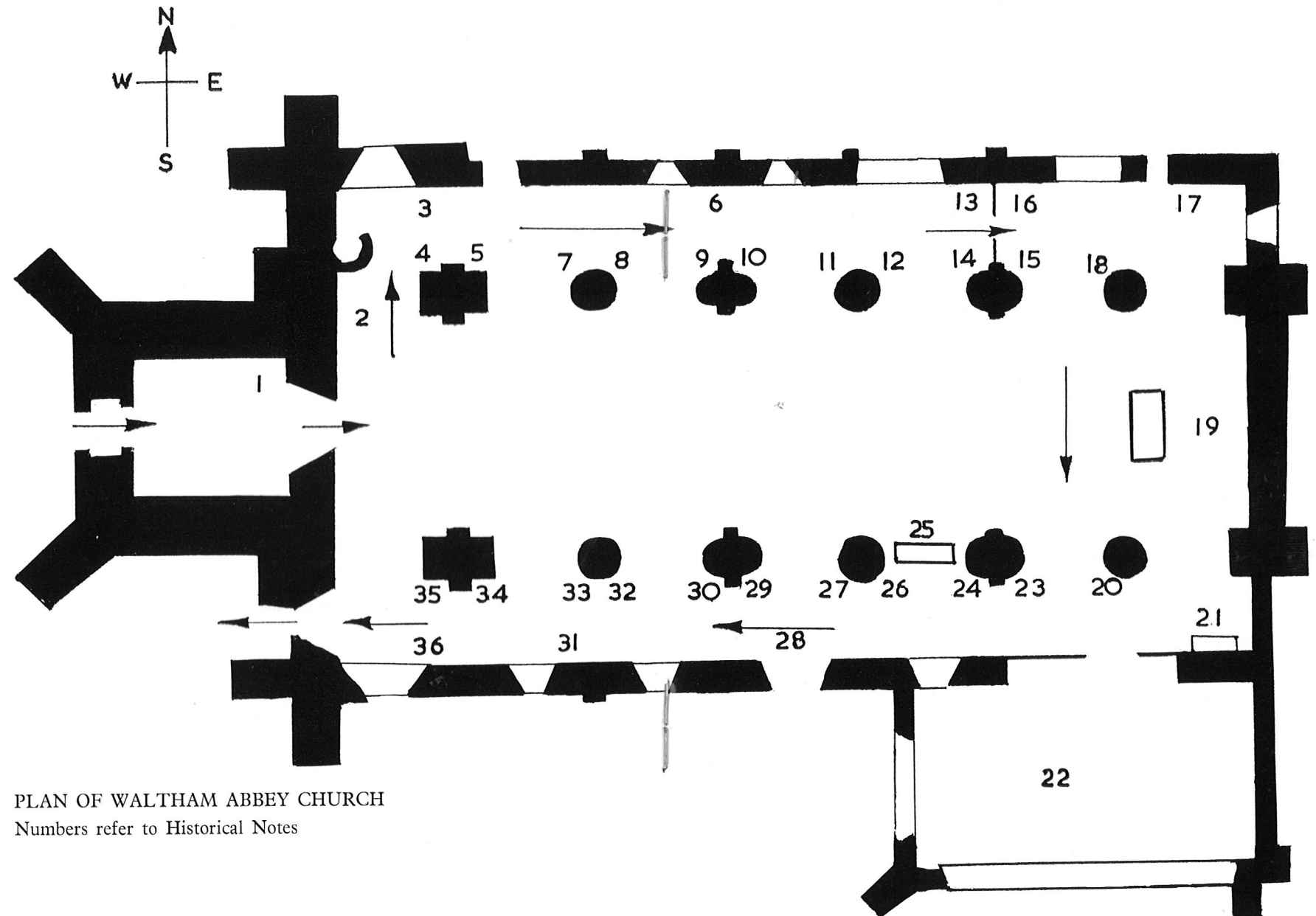
7th PILLAR

20. Arms of Mary I (1553-1558). (She bears a shield as a reigning sovereign.)

The decoration on this and the 6th pillar represents the metalwork which is thought to have filled the spiral and possibly also the zig-zag ornament of the pillars in the original work.

SOUTHEAST CORNER

21. Tomb of Sir Edward Denny, d.1600. The Denny family acquired the manor of Waltham after the Dissolution and lived here until well into the 17th century, when their branch of the family died out.



PLAN OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH
 Numbers refer to Historical Notes

LADY CHAPEL

22. Originally a chantry chapel built at the beginning of the 14th century with a crypt below, the chapel is now used as a Lady Chapel and is decorated with flowers which combine with the Mothers' Union banner to symbolise love (blue) and purity (white).

8th PILLAR

23. Arms of Elizabeth I (1558–1603). Like her forbears Elizabeth often hunted in the Forest of Waltham.

BACK OF ORGAN AND PILLARS

24. John Wylde, William Lyle and John Boston were some of the many musicians employed by the Abbey.
25. The organ today is a fine modern successor of the "iii payres of organs" listed in the inventory taken at the Dissolution of Waltham Abbey in 1540. At that time Thomas Tallis was employed at the Abbey which undoubtedly had a fine tradition of music then as it still has today.
26. The Bassano family (who were of Italian origin) lived at Waltham and were well-known Tudor musicians.

9th PILLAR

27. Dr. Thomas Fuller. Incumbent of Waltham 1648–58, he was a famous writer of religious books including a history of Waltham.

SOUTH DOOR

28. Gunpowder was manufactured at Waltham from 1640 onwards using the old fulling mill, a water mill on the present Powdermill stream. The manual fire pump was in use at the Royal Gunpowder Factory c.1700 and has been kindly lent by E.R.D.E. Explosions at the factory were frequent and fire precautions were of great importance.

10th PILLAR

29. John Foxe, 16th century author of the Book of Martyrs, lived for a time at Waltham and his family settled at Warlies. His book and Cranmer's first English Bible, 1539, probably swung from this pillar as the marks show.
30. Dr. Joseph Hall—Incumbent of Waltham 1612–34, later became Bishop of Exeter and then Bishop of Norwich.

SOUTH WALL

31. Figures in costumes, by pupils of King Harold's School, Waltham, date from the 16th to the 19th century illustrating the later history of the parish church.

11th PILLAR

32. Arms of James Hay, 2nd Earl of Carlisle, grandson of Sir Edward Denny and owner of the Abbey mansion.
33. Arms of Lionel Cranfield, owner of Copped Hall, 1623-1674, Earl of Middlesex and Lord Treasurer.

12th PILLAR

34. Arms of Charles Sackville, Earl of Dorset and Middlesex, owner of Copped Hall, 1674-1700.
35. Arms of Thomas Leverton, architect and, by an endowment made at his death, founder of the first Leverton School, 1824.

SOUTHWEST CORNER

36. Ring out wild bells. The lines written by Alfred, Lord Tennyson while living at High Beach in Waltham Holy Cross parish. The bells are said to be those of Waltham Abbey ringing out at New Year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Vicar and Churchwardens of the Abbey Church wish to express their appreciation and gratitude to all who have contributed to the Festival of Flowers in many different ways including the following: —

WALTHAM ABBEY FLORAL ART SOCIETY
WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BUCKHURST HILL FLORAL DECORATION CLUB
CHIGWELL FLORAL ART GROUP
CHINGFORD FLORAL DECORATION CLUB
ENFIELD FLOWER CLUB
HERTFORD FLOWER CLUB
HORNCHURCH FLOWER CLUB
LEYTON FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETY
LOUGHTON COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION
LOUGHTON FLORAL GROUP
NEWHAM FLORAL SOCIETY
SOUTHBURY FLORAL CLUB
THEYDON BOIS FLORAL ART CLUB
WOODFORD & DISTRICT FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP
MRS. E. DARBY
MRS. K. GARDNER
WALTER HART (FLORIST)
MRS. M. JONES FULLER
MRS. E. PARKER
MISS P. WEBB
MR. M. H. BAILEY

EMBROIDERY: SEWARDSTONE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
MOTHERS' UNION
WALTHAM ABBEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD
WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS COMMITTEE

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Will you be a FRIEND OF WALTHAM ABBEY?



1060 – 1972

Nine hundred and twelve years in the history of England. For this immense span of time the Abbey Church of Waltham has ministered to the spiritual and physical needs of the small community that has grown up around its massive walls.

Since the days when it replaced the small Church built by Tovi to administer to the little band of servants of his Manor, and to enshrine the miraculous Cross of Montacute it has stood as a haven to all men in need of comfort and help. It has been a friend.

Now in its old age, and like an old person it requires a friend.

Will you become a "Friend of Waltham Abbey"?

Annual Subscription

Ordinary member, 25p or more.

Family membership, 37½p or more.

Please write for an application form with full details.

To the Hon. Secretary: Mr. D. Mansell,
104 Monkwood Avenue, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

Please send me a "Friends of Waltham Abbey" application form.

Name

Address

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